

2007 SENATE BILL 500

February 15, 2008 – Introduced by Senators VINEHOUT, OLSEN, LEHMAN, DARLING, HANSEN, HARSDORF, LASSA, KAPANKE, PLALE, A. LASEE, ERPENBACH, ROESSLER, BRESKE, JAUCH and TAYLOR, cosponsored by Representatives A. OTT, GRONEMUS, DAVIS, VRUWINK, HINES, FIELDS, HAHN, PETROWSKI, TOWNSEND, MURTHA, M. WILLIAMS, ALBERS, SHERIDAN, NYGREN, MOLEPSKE, MUSSER, SEIDEL, FRISKE, STRACHOTA, HUBLER, GARTHWAITE and STEINBRINK. Referred to Committee on Agriculture and Higher Education.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 15.09 (6) and 20.115 (8) (g); and *to create* 15.137 (2), 20.115
2 (8) (ge) and 93.33 of the statutes; **relating to:** creating an agricultural
3 education and workforce development council and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill creates an Agricultural Education and Workforce Development Council. The council consists of legislators, members from several state agencies and educational institutions, members representing technical colleges and elementary and secondary schools, and members representing businesses related to agriculture, natural resources, and related areas such as food processing. The superintendent of public instruction appoints the members representing elementary and secondary schools. The secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection appoints the members representing businesses. The bill requires the council to advise state agencies on matters related to integrating agricultural education and workforce development in order to increase the hiring and retention of well-qualified employees in industries related to agriculture, food, and natural resources.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

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1 **SECTION 1.** 15.09 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 15.09 **(6)** REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES. Members of a council shall not be
3 compensated for their services, but, except as otherwise provided in this subsection,
4 members of councils created by statute shall be reimbursed for their actual and
5 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, such reimbursement
6 in the case of an elective or appointive officer or employee of this state who represents
7 an agency as a member of a council to be paid by the agency which pays his or her
8 salary. Members of the loan originator council under s. 15.187 (1) may not be
9 reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of
10 their duties. Members of the agricultural education and workforce development
11 council may not be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in
12 the performance of their duties.

13 **SECTION 2.** 15.137 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

14 15.137 **(2)** AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL. (a)
15 There is created in the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection an
16 agricultural education and workforce development council consisting of the
17 following members:

- 18 1. The secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection or his or her
19 designee.
- 20 2. The state superintendent of public instruction or his or her designee.
- 21 3. The secretary of workforce development or his or her designee.
- 22 3m. The secretary of commerce or his or her designee.
- 23 4. The secretary of natural resources or his or her designee.
- 24 5. The president of the University of Wisconsin System or his or her designee.
- 25 6. The director of the technical college system or his or her designee.

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1 7. The chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Extension or his or her
2 designee.

3 8. A member chosen jointly by the dean of the College of Agricultural and Life
4 Sciences of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, the dean of the School of
5 Veterinary Medicine of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, the dean of the College
6 of Business, Industry, Life Science, and Agriculture of the University of
7 Wisconsin–Platteville, the dean of the College of Agriculture, Food, and
8 Environmental Sciences of the University of Wisconsin–River Falls, and the dean of
9 the College of Natural Resources of the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point to
10 represent the colleges and school.

11 8g. A technical college district director appointed by the director of the
12 technical college system.

13 8r. A technical college dean with authority over agricultural programs
14 appointed by the director of the technical college system.

15 9. The chairpersons of one senate standing committee and one assembly
16 standing committee concerned with education, appointed as are members of
17 standing committees.

18 10. The chairpersons of one senate standing committee and one assembly
19 standing committee concerned with agriculture, appointed as are members of
20 standing committees.

21 11. A representative of the Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators.

22 12. Two representatives of general agriculture.

23 13. Two representatives of agribusiness.

24 14. A representative of environmental stewardship interests.

25 15. A representative of businesses related to natural resources.

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1 16. A representative of businesses related to plant agriculture.

2 17. A representative of landscaping, golf course, greenhouse, floral, and related
3 businesses.

4 18. A representative of food product and food processing businesses.

5 19. A representative of businesses related to animal agriculture.

6 20. A representative of businesses related to renewable energy.

7 21. A representative of agricultural communication interests.

8 22. A representative of businesses providing engineering, mechanical,
9 electronic, and power services relating to agriculture.

10 23. A representative of the board of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.

11 24. A teacher who teaches classes in science, vocational technology, business,
12 math, or a similar field.

13 25. A school guidance counselor.

14 26. A school board member.

15 27. A school district administrator.

16 (b) A person who is authorized under par. (a) 1. to 7. to appoint a designee may
17 only appoint a designee who is an employee or appointive officer of the person's
18 department or educational institution and who has sufficient authority to deploy
19 department or system resources and directly influence department or educational
20 institution decision making.

21 (c) The secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection shall appoint
22 members of the council under par. (a) 11. to 23. to serve for 3-year terms. A member
23 under par. (a) 11. to 23. may not serve more than 2 consecutive terms on the council.

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1 (cm) The superintendent of public instruction shall appoint members of the
2 council under par. (a) 24. to 27. to serve for 3-year terms. A member under par. (a)
3 24. to 27. may not serve more than 2 consecutive terms on the council.

4 **SECTION 3.** 20.115 (8) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 20.115 (8) (g) *Gifts and grants.* All Except as provided in par. (ge), all moneys
6 received from gifts and grants to carry out the purposes for which made.

7 **SECTION 4.** 20.115 (8) (ge) of the statutes is created to read:

8 20.115 (8) (ge) *Agricultural education and workforce development council, gifts*
9 *and grants.* All moneys received as gifts and grants for the activities of the
10 agricultural education and workforce development council to carry out the activities
11 of the council.

12 **SECTION 5.** 93.33 of the statutes is created to read:

13 **93.33 Agricultural education and workforce development council. (1)**

14 DEFINITION. In this section, “council” means the agricultural education and
15 workforce development council.

16 **(2) FUNCTIONS.** (a) The council shall seek to do all of the following:

17 1. Increase the hiring and retention of well-qualified employees in industries
18 related to agriculture, food, and natural resources.

19 2. Promote the coordination of educational systems to develop, train, and
20 retrain employees for current and future careers related to agriculture, food, and
21 natural resources.

22 3. Develop support for employment in fields related to agriculture, food, and
23 natural resources.

24 4. Recommend policies and other changes to improve the efficiency of the
25 development and provision of agricultural education across educational systems.

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1 (b) The council shall seek to accomplish the purposes under par. (a) by advising
2 state agencies on matters related to integrating agricultural education and
3 workforce development systems, including all of the following:

4 1. The coordination of programs.

5 2. The exchange of information related to educational and workforce
6 development needs.

7 3. The monitoring and evaluation of programs.

8 (c) The council shall identify criteria for evaluating the success of its activities,
9 shall evaluate the success of its activities using those criteria, and shall annually
10 report the results of the evaluation in the report under sub. (5).

11 **(3) COMMITTEES.** (a) The council shall create an executive committee that
12 includes the secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection or his or her
13 designee and the state superintendent of public instruction or his or her designee.
14 The council shall select members of the executive committee so that fewer than half
15 of the members of the executive committee are state employees. The executive
16 committee shall provide guidance to the council and to staff that support the
17 functions of the council. The executive committee shall meet between meetings of
18 the council.

19 (b) The executive committee may create other committees to assist the council
20 in its work. The committee members may include members of the council, employees
21 of the agencies and educational institutions with members on the council, employees
22 of other state agencies, representatives of organizations, and others. The council and
23 the executive committee shall consider the need for committees on the subjects
24 within the scope of the council's functions under sub. (2) and other subjects
25 determined to be appropriate by the council and the executive committee. A

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1 committee shall annually provide a written summary of its meetings and activities
2 to the executive committee for review and inclusion in the report under sub. (5).

3 **(4) ASSISTANCE.** The department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection,
4 the department of public instruction, the department of workforce development, the
5 department of natural resources, the technical college system, the College of
6 Agricultural and Life Sciences of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, the School
7 of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, the College of
8 Business, Industry, Life Science, and Agriculture of the University of
9 Wisconsin–Platteville, the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental
10 Sciences of the University of Wisconsin–River Falls, and the College of Natural
11 Resources of the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point may assist the council in
12 performing its functions.

13 **(4m) MEETINGS.** The council shall meet at least annually and may meet at other
14 times on the call of at least 6 members or on the call of the executive committee.
15 Section 15.09 (3) does not apply to the council.

16 **(4s) REVIEWS.** (a) The department of public instruction shall annually prepare
17 a review of agricultural education programs in primary and secondary schools.

18 (b) The technical college system shall annually prepare a review of agricultural
19 education programs in technical colleges.

20 (c) Each of the individuals specified in s. 15.137 (2) (a) 8. and the chancellor of
21 the University of Wisconsin–Extension, jointly or individually, shall annually
22 prepare a review of agricultural education programs in the University of Wisconsin
23 System, with input from or review by the University of Wisconsin System
24 administration.

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1 **(5) ANNUAL REPORT.** In September of each year, the council shall submit a report
2 to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature as determined by the
3 speaker of the assembly and the president of the senate, under s. 13.172 (3), the
4 governor, the secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection, the state
5 superintendent of public instruction, the secretary of workforce development, the
6 secretary of natural resources, the secretary of commerce, the president of the
7 University of Wisconsin System, the director of the technical college system, the
8 chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Extension, the chancellor of the
9 University of Wisconsin–Madison, the chancellor of the University of
10 Wisconsin–Platteville, the chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–River Falls,
11 and the chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point. The council shall
12 include all of the following in the report:

13 (a) A summary of the activities of the council during the fiscal year ending on
14 the preceding June 30.

15 (am) The reviews prepared under sub. (4s).

16 (b) The council's reaction to the reviews prepared under sub. (4s).

17 (c) A list of current and anticipated challenges related to agricultural
18 education.

19 (d) Recommendations of the council, including any recommendations related
20 to the structure of the council or the termination of the council.

21 (e) Dissents of any council member related to the activities and
22 recommendations of the council.

SECTION 6. Nonstatutory provisions.

23 (1) **INITIAL TERMS.** Notwithstanding the length of terms specified in section
24 15.137 (2) (c) of the statutes, as created by this act, the secretary of agriculture, trade
25

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1 and consumer protection shall appoint 5 of the initial members of the agricultural
2 education and workforce development council under section 15.137 (2) (a) 11. to 23.
3 of the statutes, as created by this act, for terms ending on July 1, 2009, 5 of the initial
4 members of the agricultural education and workforce development council under
5 section 15.137 (2) (a) 11. to 23. of the statutes, as created by this act, for terms ending
6 on July 1, 2010, and 5 of the initial members of the agricultural education and
7 workforce development council under section 15.137 (2) (a) 11. to 23. of the statutes,
8 as created by this act, for terms ending on July 1, 2011. Notwithstanding the length
9 of terms specified in section 15.137 (2) (cm) of the statutes, as created by this act, the
10 state superintendent of public instruction shall appoint one initial member of the
11 agricultural education and workforce development council under section 15.137 (2)
12 (a) 24. to 27. of the statutes for a term ending on July 1, 2009, one initial member of
13 the agricultural education and workforce development council under section 15.137
14 (2) (a) 24. to 27. of the statutes for a term ending on July 1, 2010, and 2 initial
15 members of the agricultural education and workforce development council under
16 section 15.137 (2) (a) 24. to 27. of the statutes for terms ending on July 1, 2011.

17 (2) POSITION AUTHORIZATION. The authorized FTE positions for the department
18 of agriculture, trade and consumer protection are increased by 1.0 PR position to be
19 funded from the appropriation under section 20.115 (8) (ge) of the statutes, as created
20 by this act, for an executive director for the agricultural education and workforce
21 development council.

SECTION 7. Effective date.

22 (1) This act takes effect on the 30th day after the day of publication.

24 (END)